Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry State Forest Resource Management Guide Public Comment Summary

SUMMARY COMMENTS

<u>Jackson Washington State Forest</u> <u>Compartment 4 Tract 7</u> <u>30 Day Comment Period Ending: 11/21/2013</u> <u>Comments Received: 1</u>

The table below is a summary of public comments received concerning the draft Resource Management Guide. The public comments received have been reviewed in their entirety and given due consideration summarized in the Division of Forestry response below.

Comment Summary	Division of Forestry Response
 Concern of potential impact to Indiana bat and recommends following USFWS management guidelines. Would like to see more attention to wildlife habitat and non timber resources in the RMG. Concern on impacts to soil and water resources and the effective implementation and monitoring of BMPs. Concern on potential impacts to recreation, and aesthetics. Suggests area be preserved for recreation and habitat. 	 Habitats, communities and species are considered as part of the management planning process. Along with field observations, Natural heritage data has been reviewed to check for threatened or endangered bird and wildlife species on or near the management unit. Further information on direct and indirect impacts on species and habitats are found in the Indiana State Forest Environmental Assessment. Implementation of the RMG will utilize guidance from the US Fish and Wildlife Service and other sources to avoid take impacts to the Indiana bat and other listed species. Best management practices will be implemented and monitored to address the soil erosion and sedimentation concerns. BMPs will be required of operator and included in timber sales contracts. DoF will respond to reported BMP departures. Recreational use and amenities of the area are addressed in the RMG. The prescribed management activities are consistent with silvicultural principles, promotes habitat diversity and supported by inventory data and field assessments. The concerns expressed have been considered and may be further addressed during plan implementation.